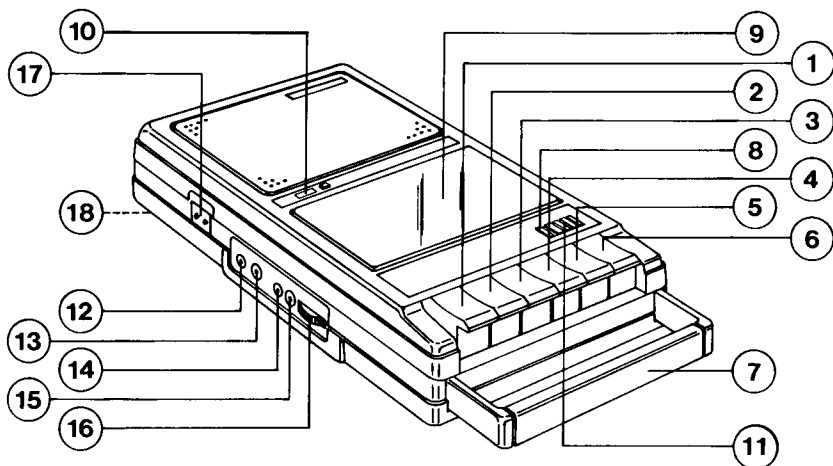


CR 255 CASSETTE RECORDER

Operating Instructions

BOOTS CR255 CONTROLS



- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1. Record Key. | 10. Tape Counter and Re-Set Button. |
| 2. Play Key. | 11. Built-In Condenser Microphone. |
| 3. Rewind Key. | 12. Earphone Jack. |
| 4. Fast-Forward Key. | 13. Auxiliary Input Jack. |
| 5. Stop/Eject Key. | 14. Remote Jack. |
| 6. Pause Key | 15. Microphone Input Jack. |
| 7. Slideaway Handle. | 16. Volume Control. |
| 8. Battery Level/Record LED Indicator | 17. Mains Connector Socket. |
| 9. Cassette Door | 18. Battery Compartment. |

OPERATION ON AC MAINS.

IMPORTANT

The wires in the mains lead are coloured in accordance with the following code:

Blue — Neutral
Brown — Live

If these colours do not correspond with the markings in your plug, proceed as follows:

The wire which is coloured Brown must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter L or coloured Red.

The wire which is coloured Blue must be connected to the terminal which is marked with the letter N or coloured Black.

If a 13-amp (BS1363) plug is used, a 3-amp fuse must be fitted.

If another type of plug is used, the equipment should be protected by a 3-amp fuse at the mains distribution board.

Consult a qualified Electrician in case of difficulty.

WARNING:

Disconnect the recorder from the mains by unplugging the lead at the wall socket when not in use.

OPERATION ON BATTERIES:

The CR255 operates from 4 x 1.5V DC batteries, size R14HP. If the machine is to be used mostly from battery supply, Manganese Alkaline batteries (MN1400) will give longer battery life and better economy.

Under no circumstances should standard R14SP batteries be used.

Slide off the lid of the battery compartment and insert the four batteries over the ribbon, taking care to observe the polarity marking inside the compartment.

INCORRECT FITTING MAY DAMAGE THE CIRCUIT.

REMOVE WEAK OR EXHAUSTED BATTERIES IMMEDIATELY.

If the recorder is not to be used for long periods of time, or mostly on the mains, remove the batteries and store them in a cool, dry place.

Insertion of the mains lead into the input socket on the recorder automatically disconnects the batteries. Always disconnect the mains lead from the wall socket when the machine is not in use, or when the machine is unplugged from the mains lead.

PROPER CARE OF YOUR RECORDER AND CASSETTES.

- * Keep the recorder in a clean condition as described under Maintenance.
- * Do not expose the machine to damp conditions or to extreme high temperatures, such as may be reached inside a car on a sunny day.
- * Keep the machine and cassettes away from strong magnetic fields, such as close to large transformers, electric motors, television receivers and loudspeakers.
- * Always wind your cassettes to one end after use.
- * Do not make excessive use of the wind and rewind keys in searching for a particular item on a cassette. This may cause "stepping" or ridges in the layers of tape and so cause jamming or triggering of the auto stop.
- * Do not touch the heads with any metallic or sharp-pointed object.

NOTE FOR USERS OF HOME COMPUTERS.

The CR255 has been tested and found to operate satisfactorily with most Home Computers.

You may need to experiment in the setting of the volume control in order to obtain satisfactory loading of computer programs from tape. It is suggested that the volume control is set around mid-way. If this does not give satisfactory results, experiment with different levels of the volume control.

The Auxiliary Input should be tried in the first instance to record programs from your computer. If the computer has a very low output level (below approx. 40mV) it may be necessary to use the Microphone Input in order to obtain sufficient level on the tape.

Most computers output a few seconds of constant tone prior to sending the program header and data stream. This tone will allow the ALC in the recorder to settle and record the program without corrupting the data.

If your computer does not output a short period of constant tone, the program header may suffer corruption unless you execute a sub-routine or change the Monitor routines to force the production of audio tone prior to the program header.

CASSETTES.

Different lengths are available which offer a choice of recording time.

C60 cassettes give you 30 minutes each side.

C90 cassettes give you 45 minutes each side.

The use of C120 cassettes (2 x 60 minutes) is NOT recommend in this machine.

Use only good quality Standard or Super Ferric oxide (IEC Type I) cassettes. Do not use any other Type of cassette in the CR255.

Although this is a monophonic machine, it is compatible with stereo pre-recorded cassettes and will reproduce these in mono.

Recordings made on the CR255 are compatible with stereo cassette machine, and will reproduce on them in mono.

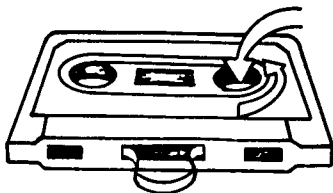
LOADING AND REMOVING CASSETTES.

Depress the Stop/Eject Key fully to open the cassette compartment lid. Before inserting a cassette, check the tape tension and make sure that any slack is taken up. This can be done by inserting a pencil into one of the hub-holes and turning to take up the slack. This simple operation will prevent tape-spill and loop-throwing, both of which can physically damage the tape and spoil recordings.

Insert the cassette into the guide on the cassette compartment lid with the exposed tape in the face of the cassette facing the front of the machine. Ensure the cassette is located firmly within the guides on the cassette compartment lid. Close the lid. The cassette is now ready for use.

To remove cassettes fully depress the Stop/Eject Key. Do not attempt to remove cassettes without first disengaging any function by using the Stop Key.

Do not attempt to load cassettes when the mechanism is engaged.



PLAYBACK.

Cassettes may be played back through the internal speaker, through an earphone or small extension speaker (8 ohms impedance) using the earphone socket. The same socket may also be used to connect the recorder to other audio equipment for the playback of cassettes.

RECORDING USING THE BUILT-IN MICROPHONE.

Insert a cassette and depress the Record Key and the Play Key simultaneously. The Recording Indicator LED will show that the machine is in the record mode. This indicator will glow brightly when the machine is operated from the mains, or when the batteries are in a good condition. When batteries are weak, this indicator will glow dimly indicating that the batteries need replacement.

Position the microphone about 12ins/30cm from the sound source. The recorder features an Automatic Level Control (ALC) to maintain all recordings at an optimum level. The volume control operates only during replay and therefore does not need adjustment.

Because the microphone built into your machine is in close proximity to mechanical moving parts, it may pick up noise from these if the recorder is operated at greater distances than 12ins/30cm from the sound source.

RECORDING USING AN EXTERNAL MICROPHONE.

Connect a low-impedance microphone to the Microphone Socket (3.5mm jack). For microphones featuring a remote stop-start switch, connect this facility to the Remote Socket (2.5mm jack). Operate the recorder as above.

For optimum signal to noise performance, position the external microphone as close to the sound source as possible. Insertion of a jack plug into the microphone socket automatically disconnects the built-in microphone.

RECORDING USING THE AUXILIARY SOCKET.

The Auxiliary Socket enables your recorder to be directly connected to other equipment for making recordings. Insertion of a plug into this socket automatically disconnects the built-in microphone.

The ALC operates also when recording directly using the Auxiliary Socket and no volume adjustment is necessary. The nominal sensitivity of the Auxiliary Socket is 80mV.

After connecting your machine to the other equipment, recordings are made by inserting a cassette and depressing the Record Key and Play Key simultaneously. The Recording Indicator LED will show that the machine is in the record mode.

AUTO STOP.

The CR255 incorporates a mechanical auto stop which automatically disengages the playback or record functions at the end of a cassette.

This does not operate in either the fast-forward or rewind modes.

If a cassette triggers the auto stop before reaching the end of the tape, then it is likely that the tape has become too tightly wound or has wound in ridges, causing too much friction. This can normally be corrected by rapping the cassette face down on a flat surface and then winding the tape through from end to end in your machine.

FAST-FORWARD AND REWIND.

The Fast-Forward Key and the Rewind Key allow rapid location of a particular section of tape. Function of either key is cancelled by using the Stop Key.

Always use the Stop Key to halt the tape. Attempting to go from winding to play is likely to damage the tape and may cause damage to the mechanism. Do not leave the machine winding tape in either direction since the Auto Stop will not operate when the tape reaches the end, and the cassette or mechanism may be damaged if left in this way for any length of time.

Always use the Stop Key once the cassette has wound through to one end.

PROTECTING RECORDINGS.

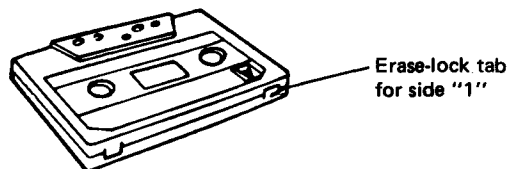
Normally, anything recorded on the tape is automatically erased when a new recording is made.

It is possible to protect your recordings from accidental erasure by removing the erase-lock tabs found on the rear of the cassette. When the cassette is held with the recorded side uppermost, the protective tab will be found on the left side of the rear edge of the cassette.

All pre-recorded cassettes are protected in this way to prevent accidental erasure of the commercial recording.

"Protected" cassettes may be re-recorded by simply fixing a piece of adhesive tape over the hole where the tab has been removed. This takes the place of the tab and your machine can now be engaged in the record-mode.

A "Protected" cassette will prevent the Record Key from being depressed. If at any time you attempt to record, and this key will not engage, never force the mechanism or damage will result. Check that a cassette has been loaded and that the erase-lock tab has not been removed.



Erase-lock tab
for side "1"

MAINTENANCE.

The mechanics of your CR255 require no routine maintenance and under no circumstances should you attempt to lubricate any part of the machine.

However, the parts of the machine coming into direct contact with the tape do require periodic cleaning to ensure continuing good performance.

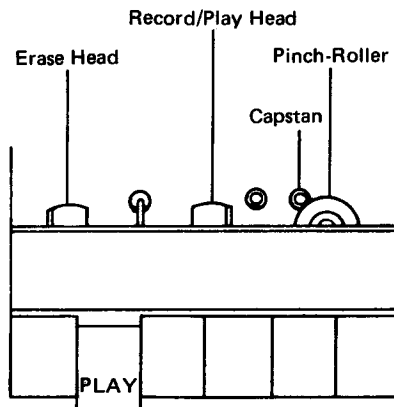
The tape heads (erase and record/play) should be cleaned using a cotton bud moistened with a drop of isopropyl alcohol solution or proprietary tape head cleaner.

The pinch-roller and capstan shaft may be cleaned in a similar manner.

To gain proper access to all these parts of the mechanism, remove any cassette from the compartment and leave the lid raised. Pressing the Play Key will engage the mechanics and move all parts into view.

It will be found easier to clean the entire surface of the pinch-roller if the power source is connected (batteries or mains) so that the roller and capstan shaft rotate.

It is suggested that a proprietary Cassette Head Cleaning Cassette be used after manually cleaning the record/play head in order to restore the polish and remove surface film.



Failure to maintain the tape heads in a clean condition will result in muffled reproduction, poor recordings and incomplete erasure.

Failure to maintain the pinch-roller and capstan shaft in a clean condition is likely to cause the tape to entangle and spill out of the cassette.

Do not touch the tape head with any metallic or sharp-pointed object.

CR255 TECHNICAL DATA.

Record System:	Philips Compact Cassette system, 2-track monophonic.
Tape Speed:	4.75cm/sec.
Operating Voltage:	220-240V AC, 50 Hz. 6V DC, 4 x 1.5V batteries, Type R14HP, or Manganese Aikaline Type MN1400.
Erase System:	DC erase.
Bias System:	DC bias.
Frequency Response:	100Hz — 6.3kHz $\pm$ 6dB.
Power Output:	500mW RMS.
Wow & Flutter:	Better than 0.25% DIN.
Signal To Noise Ratio:	34dB.

BOOTS AUDIO GUARANTEE FOR CR 255 CASSETTE RECORDER

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